

Please amend the **Abstract** as follows:

A method for modeling cable loss for a cable plant is provided. The method includes identifying a service to be provided over the cable plant, selectively entering at least one value corresponding to at least one parameter of the cable plant, and on entering each of the at least one values, determining ~~and displaying the~~ an estimated cable loss for the cable plant providing the service based on all of the entered at least one values and an empirical model of cable loss, the empirical model including data on losses affected by bridge tap placement and bridge tap length in the cable plant, and displaying the estimated cable loss for the identified service.